

**GEORGIA BOARD OF MASSAGE THERAPY
MINUTES OF CONFERENCE CALL BOARD MEETING
October 12, 2012**

The Georgia Board of Massage Therapy board Conference Call meeting was held Friday, October 12, 2012, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division offices located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following members were present:

Jane H. Johnson, Chair
Kathy Lescak, Vice-Chair
Freddy Seagraves, Consumer Member
Denise Taylor

Absent: Jennifer C. Clay

Administrative Staff Present:

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director
Stephanie Mason, Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Johnson established that a quorum of the Board was present and called the Board meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Agenda:

Ms. Lescak motioned, Ms. Taylor seconded, and the Board voted to approve the agenda as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Board Chair Report:

1. Ms. Johnson notified the Board of the emergency Suspensions in Florida by the Florida MT Board due to the authorities' discovery of an employee at a school who was selling transcripts. The schools owner was not aware of the fraudulent sales to non-students. Of the 80 plus names publically identified, there were 20 or more identified as possibly licensed in Georgia under the fraudulent transcripts. Following a search of the database and confirmation of Georgia licensees whose Florida licenses have been suspended, the individuals will be referred to the Attorney General's office for preparation of potential disciplinary actions.
2. Ms. Johnson reported the discovery of some CE providers getting around the Board rules on "hands On" CE Hours, and that she will continue to look into the matter.

Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Board Chair report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

Petition for variance/waiver requests:

1. Dennis, Brenda: Rule 345-4-.05 Reinstatement of a License. Amended.

Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition for variance/waiver request. Insufficient evidence provided to prove hardship. Suggested license be placed in Inactive Status. None opposed, motion carried.

2. Walker, Yvonne; Rule 345-4-.02 Continuing Education Hours. Amended.

Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition for variance/waiver request. Insufficient evidence provided to prove hardship. None opposed, motion carried

3. Langston, Yolanda: Rule 345-4-.02 Continuing Education Hours. Amended.

Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to deny the petition for variance/waiver request. Insufficient evidence provided to prove hardship. Suggested license be placed in Inactive Status. None opposed, motion carried.

Correspondences:

Mr. Seagraves motioned, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to allow the administrative staff to respond to all correspondences presented to the Board as directed. None opposed, motion carried.

Provisional Licensure – Proposed New Rule

The Board continued discussion regarding the development of a Board rule for the Provisional License, and the fee to be charged. The Board discussed and agreed upon a fee of \$125. The proposed rule language continues to be reviewed and will be presented to the full Board during their next scheduled meeting.

Massage Therapy School Report:

Ms. Lescak requested her report regarding massage therapy education programs be tabled until the next scheduled meeting date. In addition, Ms. Lescak requested the addition to the agenda for the meeting of additional time to be spent on the MT education programs.

Mr. Seagraves motioned, Ms. Taylor seconded, and the Board voted to accept the school report and table the discussion until the next scheduled meeting date with additional time to be scheduled for the report. None opposed, motion carried.

Executive Session:

Ms. Lescak motioned, and Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2(k) (1) (2), O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2-(k) (4), O.C.G.A. § 43-1-19 (h) (2) & (4) to receive and review information pertaining to Applications, receive the Attorney General's, Cognizant, and Enforcement Reports. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Board members Johnson, Lescak, Seagraves, and Taylor.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, September 14, 2012, Ms. Johnson declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

APPLICATIONS:

Ms. Lescak motioned, and Ms. Taylor seconded, and the Board voted to take the following action on applicants applying for licensure by Reinstatement. None opposed, motion carried.

1. Amber Bloodworth Approved for licensure

Ms. Lescak motioned, and Ms. Taylor seconded, and the Board voted to take the following action on applicants applying for licensure. None opposed, motion carried.

1. S.J. Pending
2. H.S. Pending
3. J.W. Denied
4. Marcus Wright Approved for Licensure
5. Debra Mack Approved for Licensure
6. Joanyliz Berrios Approved for Licensure
7. D.Y. Pending

Attorney General's Report:

Assistant Attorney General, Stephanie Mason provided the Board with a status report which included information on any cases referred for action.

Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to accept the Attorney General's Report as presented. None opposed, motion carried.

1. O'Connell, Shelby Non-Compliance with Public Board Order

Ms. Taylor motioned, Ms. Lescak seconded, and the Board voted to refer the non-compliance to the Attorney General's office to pursue further disciplinary action. None opposed, motion carried.

There being no additional business to discuss, Ms. Lescak motioned, Mr. Seagraves seconded, and the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Minutes recorded, reviewed and edited by: Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

JANE H. JOHNSON

Chair

Georgia State Board of Massage Therapy

BRIG ZIMMERMAN

Executive Director

Professional Licensing Boards Division

These minutes were approved on: November 26, 2012